Commonwealth environmental water office

lachlan selected area Monitoring, Evaluation and research plan (2019-2022)

Appendix E: Communication and Engagement activities

FINAL: MARCH 2020

This document forms part of the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office Lachlan Selected Area Monitoring Evaluation and Research Plan (2019-2022): <https://www.environment.gov.au/water/cewo/publications/mer-plan-lachlan-2019>

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**ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Accepted Acronym** | **Standard Term (capitalisation as specified)** |
| ANAE | Australian National Aquatic Ecosystem |
| C&E | Communication and Engagement |
| CEWH | Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder |
| CEWO | Commonwealth Environmental Water Office |
| CPD | Collaborative Pairs Program |
| CPUE | Catch per unit effort |
| DOIW | NSW Department of Industry- Water |
| ER | Ecosystem respiration |
| EWAG | Environmental Water Advisory Group |
| EWKR | Environmental Water Knowledge and Research |
| GPP | Gross Primary Production |
| GS | General Security |
| HCVAE | High Conservation Value Aquatic Ecosystems |
| HS | High Security |
| IMEF | Integrated Monitoring of Environmental Flows |
| **LAP** | **Land Access Protocol** |
| **LRWG** | Lachlan Riverine Working Group |
| LTIM Project | Long Term Intervention Monitoring Project |
| M&E | Monitoring and Evaluation |
| MDBA | Murray-Darling Basin Authority |
| MDMS | Monitoring Data Management System |
| MER Program | Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Program |
| **NoW** | **NSW Office of Water** |
| NPP | Net primary production |
| **NPWS** | **NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service** |
| **NSW DPI** | **NSW Department of Primary Industries** |
| PM | Project Management |
| QA/QC | quality assurance / quality control |
| SMWS | Safe Method Work Statement |
| SOP | Standard Operating Procedure |
| SRA | Sustainable Rivers Audit |
| TAGs | Technical Advisory Groups |
| WHS | Workplace Health and Safety |
| WRP | Water Resource Plan |

# Communication and Engagement activities

This appendix provides a summary of the communication and engagement activities funded through the specified communication and engagement budget of the Lachlan MER Program. For further details of the operational refer to Section 8 (Communication and engagement) of Dyer et al (2019) *Lachlan Selected Area Monitoring, Evaluation and Research Plan (2019-2022).* Additional information about the Operational and External Communications and Engagement activities, referred to in the Lachlan MER Plan, are included in Table 1 and 2 below.

Table 1. Description of operational communication and engagement activities

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Item No. | Service/Deliverable | Description |
| 2019-20 | | |
| Meetings | | |
| 1. | EWAG & TAG Meetings | 4 EWAG meetings (face to face) and 3 TAG meetings (phone).  1 representative at each meeting |
| 2. | Collaborative meeting | 1 per year. Assumes 1 staff member attending and location is not Canberra. Assumes 2 day meeting and efficiencies can be gained in a year from other meetings. |
| Communication products | | |
| 3 | Update landholder access protocols | The Land Access Protocol (LAP) or access arrangement includes details of when, where and how any member of the M&E Provider team will access land and how operations or monitoring activities will be conducted while on affected landholder property. |
| 4 | Landholder update | One provided following the spring / early summer sampling and one following the Autumn/early winter sampling (expected January and June each year) |
| 5 | Flow MER Stories | 2 per year as possible |
| 6 | Aboriginal Story | 1 per year, around NAIDOC week |
| Forums | | |
| 7 | Operational MER Stakeholder Forum | Annual meeting of the Selected Area Working Group members plus key operational stakeholders to:   * share observations and outcomes from the monitoring * explore opportunities for collaboration * coordinate activities   ensure agencies are briefed and aware of activities as well as observations and outcomes from environmental watering |
| 8 | Practitioner Forum | 1 per year, assuming meetings in each of Adelaide, Albury and Moree. Assumes 3 staff attending  To enable collaboration between Selected Area Teams and operational stakeholders across the MDB |
| 2020-21 | | |
| Meetings | | |
| 9. | EWAG & TAG Meetings | 4 EWAG meetings (face to face) and 3 TAG meetings (phone).  1 representative at each meeting |
| 10. | Collaborative meeting | 1 per year. Assumes 1 staff member attending and location is not Canberra. Assumes 2 day meeting and efficiencies can be gained in a year from other meetings. |
| Communication products | | |
| 11 | Landholder update | One provided following the spring / early summer sampling and one following the Autumn/early winter sampling (expected January and June each year) |
| 12 | Flow MER Stories | 2 per year as possible |
| 13 | Aboriginal Story | 1 per year, around NAIDOC week |
| Forums | | |
| 14 | Practitioner Forum | 1 per year, assuming meetings in each of Adelaide, Albury and Moree. Assumes 3 staff attending  To enable collaboration between Selected Area Teams and operational stakeholders across the MDB |
| 2021-22 | | |
| Meetings | | |
| 15 | EWAG & TAG Meetings | 4 EWAG meetings (face to face) and 3 TAG meetings (phone).  1 representative at each meeting |
| 16 | Collaborative meeting | 1 per year. Assumes 1 staff member attending and location is not Canberra. Assumes 2 day meeting and efficiencies can be gained in a year from other meetings. |
| Communication products | | |
| 17 | Landholder update | One provided following the spring / early summer sampling and one following the Autumn/early winter sampling (expected January and June each year) |
| 18 | Flow MER Stories | 2 per year as possible |
| 19 | Aboriginal Story | 1 per year, around NAIDOC week |
| Forums | | |
| 20 | Operational MER Stakeholder Forum | Annual meeting of the Selected Area Working Group members plus key operational stakeholders to:   * share observations and outcomes from the monitoring * explore opportunities for collaboration * coordinate activities   ensure agencies are briefed and aware of activities as well as observations and outcomes from environmental watering |
| 21 | Practitioner Forum | 1 per year, assuming meetings in each of Adelaide, Albury and Moree. Assumes 3 staff attending  To enable collaboration between Selected Area Teams and operational stakeholders across the MDB |

Table 2. Description of external communication and engagement activities

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Item No. | Service/Deliverable | Description |
| 2019-20 | | |
| Community Events | | |
| 1. | Booberoi Creek Engagement Weekend | A Booberoi Creek Engagement Weekend building on the event held in February 2019. It is expected that the focus will be on fish monitoring, but may expand into aquatic vegetation and waterbirds. This will highlight MER monitoring in the region, and further engage landholders in the management of their creek. |
| Media | | |
| 2 | Articles in Newspapers | Four targeted articles per year for the Lake News, Ivanhoe and Hillston Spectator, Condobolin Argus, Forbes Advocate, Cowra Guardian. Suggested timing is to follow the Quarterly Outcomes Newsletter but should not preclude opportunistic articles following key monitoring / research activities. |
| Citizen Science | | |
| 3 | Water quality sampling | Support for a WaterWatch and WaterBugBlitz team at Murrin Bridge Aboriginal community and Lake Cargelligo. The group is administered by Lake Cargelligo Landcare, and Central West Local Land Services (LLS, Jasmine Wells). |
| Other | | |
| 4 | Reporting and Coordination | Execution of the C&E Plan will require time for coordination, reporting and information dissemination. |
| 5 | Indigenous activities | An allowance for undertaking activities engaging local indigenous groups. |
| 2020-21 | | |
| Community Events | | |
| 1. | Booberoi Creek Engagement Weekend | See above |
| 2 | Hillston Hook Line and Sinker | Annual event organised by local recreational fishing clubs. LTIM has attended HHLS with display and activities for past 4 years. |
| 3 | Murrin Bridge | Engage with the Murrin Bridge Aboriginal community near Lake Cargelligo. This may provide an opportunity to demonstrate LTIM vegetation monitoring techniques and participate in a cultural events. |
| Media | | |
| 4 | Articles in Newspapers | See above |
| Citizen Science | | |
| 5 | Water quality sampling | See above |
| Other | | |
| 6 | Reporting and Coordination | See above |
| 7 | Indigenous activities | See above |
| 2021-22 | | |
| Community Events | | |
| 1 | Hillston Hook Line and Sinker | See above |
| 2 | Murrin Bridge | See above |
| Media | | |
| 3 | Articles in Newspapers | See above |
| Citizen Science | | |
| 4 | Water quality sampling | See above |
| Other | | |
| 5 | Reporting and Coordination | See above |
| 6 | Indigenous activities | See above |